

THE TOKEN HUNTER

SEPTEMBER 1997, Vol. 16, No. 9

The Official Publication Of
The National Utah Token Society
(N.U.T.S.)

DEDICATED TO THE COLLECTING, RECORDING, AND PRESERVING
OF UTAH'S HISTORICAL MEDALS, TOKENS, COINS, AND BOTTLES

OFFICERS	NEXT MEETING	PROGRAM
PRES.: Bill Turpela VICE PRES.: Bruce Dugger 261-1678 TREAS/SEC: Jolene Henderson. 967-2975 EDITORS: Kevin Anderson 943-5425 Robert Winkle 942-8990 WAGONMASTERS: Jim Jeffries 972-8284 Karen Secor Tim Rose 969-5904 Diane Nicewinter Medals Chairperson: Bill Brown 942-4365	Thursday September 25, 1997 7:15 p.m.	<i>Gary Weicks</i> Speaking on: Military of the Uintahs

****PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES****

Promptness Prize 1935 Pony Express, Diamond Jubilee

Grand Prize 1982 K-Ran 1/10 ounce Gold Coin

1985 - Liberty Lobby Commemorative, 1 Ounce Silver Coin

1922 - Peace - Silver Dollar

1 Dollar - Silver Certificate

Swallow ConfectCo. - G/F 5¢ Fillmore, UT

O.S.C.A.R. DeMill & Co. - G/F 50¢ Rockville, UT

Peerless Store Co. - G/F \$1.00 Peerless, UT

Gold Label Liquor Co. - G/F 5¢ Salt Lake City, UT

Astoria - G/F 25¢ Salt Lake City, UT

G. S. Wood Merc. Co. - G/F \$1.00 Springville, UT

Utah State Prison - G/F 10¢ Sugar House, UT

Diamantis Club - G/F 5¢ Helper, UT

Eureka Smokehouse - G/F 5¢ Eureka, UT

H & M Store - G/F 25¢ Ogden, UT

Rex Billiards - G/F 25¢ Laramie, WY

Heber Merc. Co. - G/F 10¢ Heber, UT

W. A. Bond - G/F 1 drink or cigar Modena, UT

Dairy Quen Store - G/F 40¢

31554 - G/F 5¢

WAGONMASTER'S REPORT

by Diane Nicewinter

August was a great month for a lot of us this year. I believe we had, or had close to, a record number of members come out to our club picnic. The food was exceptionally good, and, as far as I could tell, everyone had a very good time.

We had 77 items entered in the F.O.T.M. contest and it was very difficult picking the best ones. I am glad that the members vote, because it makes the Wagonmaster's job a lot easier.

We would like to thank Leonardo Vera for donating a small digging shovel that he had made to be given away in our August drawing. Everyone wanted that shovel (too bad there was only one). Thanks again to Leonardo. You really have the club spirit.

Remember everyone, if you bring in a new individual and he/she join our club, you will receive a silver mercury dime.

Something that I heard the other day - keep your eyes open for a 1913 Liberty Head Nickel. There were only five made. Four of them are in private collections and the fifth one was spent by a small child in a candy store. If a person ever finds that nickel, he/she could make all of us rich.

First Place Winners for August

U.S. Coin	Leonardo Vera	1899 2¢ Barber Half
Foreign Coin	Jeral Smith	1862 English Half Penny
Token	Bruce Dugger	Golden Gate Saloon
Jewelry	Bruce Dugger	Silver Wings
Artifact	Dave Fyte	1870's Military Pin
Button	Jeral Smith	Flower
Non-Metal	Leonardo Vera	Marble
	Cliff Fausett	Crockery Piece
People Choice Bottle	Bob Parker	Big Chief
Most Valuable Bottle	Bob Parker	Old Quaker Whiskey
Oldest U.S. Coin	Cliff Fausett	1875 Seated Dime
Oldest U.S. Cent	Jeral Smith	1864 Indian Head Cent
Most Valuable U.S. Coin	Bob Parker	1891 Seated Dime

In the October newsletter, I will put in the total points that everyone has so far this year in the F.O.T.M. competition.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bill Turpela

Well, here it is once again - Fall. Where did the summer go? Sunny days will soon change to that white stuff. I'll stop this part for now and get on to stuff more important (at least for the present time).

We had a great turnout at our club picnic. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and, as always, we had some great finds of the month.

We have a lot to do between now and the end of the year (only 3 months by the time you read this). First, the U.N.S. have their club metals ready for sale. I will try and have some applications at the club meeting. So if any of you want them, you can order them then. Okay.

Second, we are planning a club outing for year's end, if the weather doesn't get out of hand by then. It is planned for the 27th and 28th of September. We are planning on going to Gold Hill. It is about 140 miles from Salt Lake City. So if you want to see a ghost town that is still in pretty good shape (at least the last time that I was there), come out for the hunt. You can get there via Wendover or you can choose the Pony Express Route road. Both are easy routes and clearly marked so nobody should have any trouble finding your way. But if you plan on going and have any questions, bring them to the meeting and we will do our best to answer them for you. Also, remember that if you do go, they are doing some mining in the area. Thus, there will be a few "Keep Out" areas. However, most of all, watch out for rattlesnakes. I have seen one or two every time I've been there.

Third, there is going to be a coin show. Guess when. Yep, September 26th - 28th. So those of you who can't or don't want to go to Gold Hill can choose this.

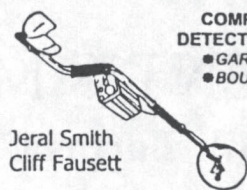
Fourth, our club is about to get a new facelift or change. We officers have done our fair share at keeping the club afloat and I would like to thank each and every one of them myself. Thank you, guys and gals. However, it is time to start thinking of whom you want as officers for the 1998 year. I know for a fact that we have individuals in our club who are just as good as our present officers to take our place. So please step up and give a little of your time to make the 1998 year even better than the last.

Lastly, speaking of the September meeting, we have asked Gary Weicks to come back and he has agreed. He will be speaking on the "Military of the Uintahs." It should be great so plan on being there.

Well, I have run out of stuff to say for now. See ya at the meeting if not before.

Bill

J & J METAL DETECTORS



COMPLETE LINE OF METAL
DETECTORS AND ACCESSORIES

• GARRETT • MINELAB • TESORO
• BOUNTY HUNTER • FISHER •

Books And Tools
Buy & Sell Finds

Jeral Smith
Cliff Fausett

RENTALS AND
LAY-A-WAYS

OPEN TUES. - SAT. 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.
7777 SOUTH STATE STREET
MIDVALE, UTAH 84047
(801) 567-1122

All About Coins

BOB CAMPBELL
PROFESSIONAL NUMISMALIST

1123 East 2100 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84106
(801) 467-8636
Buy, Sell or Trade
No reasonable offer refused

Yesterday's Treasures



ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
BUY • SELL • TRADE

JOLENE
967-2975

DIANE
969-3248

From the Co-Editor's Desk:



The Gold Hill Hunt

By Robert Winkle

First, just a quick note to say that, at long last, my article was published in the October edition of *Western and Eastern Treasures*.

Second, we will be going on a group hunt to Gold Hill on September 27th and 28th, so thought you might like to read a little about the history of the town. The following is an editing from: Stephen L. Carr, *Utah Ghost Towns*, Western Epics (1995).

Gold Hill

Gold Hill was established in 1892 and named for a low, gold-bearing mountain just east of the town where several mines were located. Col. James P. Woodman built a smelter in town mainly to handle ores from his Cane Springs, Alvarado, and Gold Hill mines. A great many minerals were located in this area including silver, gold, lead, tungsten, arsenic, and bismuth. The Alvarado and Cane Springs mines produced around \$250,000 during the first three years of the first gold boom. As the boom faded, the smelter was taken down and moved elsewhere, leaving only the large terraced walls, foundations, and tailings dump. Most of the inhabitants had lived in tents; there were very few buildings during the initial phase. About all that was left after the first boom were dozens of mine shafts everywhere.

The town started breathing a second time in 1916. World War I was on and copper was the important commodity at this time; several old mines were reopened, some new ones located, and a railroad was planned to tap these resources.

The Deep Creek Railroad was run from Wendover straight down the Nevada/Utah state line and built into town in 1917 to find several tons of good copper ore stockpiled waiting for a train. A million dollars worth of ore left Gold Hill in 1917-18 bound for the Salt Lake Valley smelters.

The town site boomed to about 3000 people. The forty-acre site was plotted out with square blocks and named streets, with specific plots designated for a school, a church, and a library. There were several stores including grocery, dry goods, hardware and drug stores, gasoline station, assay office, a boarding house, several saloons, hotels and cafes, and a daily newspaper, *The Gold Hill News*.

Residences ranged from simple tents and canvas-covered shacks to rather substantial frame homes. Many of the folks, however, were just working day-by-day awaiting word of another or better strike elsewhere, so they did not bother to keep their yards up, and retained only what they could haul away in one trip if the call came. As a result, Gold Hill was never a particularly attractive place.

As World War I drilled on, the government found itself running short of tungsten and all of the cotton fields in the South were being overrun by the cotton boll weevil, which was controlled by arsenic, but the overseas were unavailable. Gold Hill had an abundance of both minerals which grew to be more important even than copper and gold, but by 1924 the government found it could acquire arsenic from cheaper foreign sources. The arsenic boom collapsed and took the town with it.

A few diehards continued puttering around with their mines, sending an occasional carload of ore up to Wendover. Then in 1938, the last train whistled out of Gold Hill; by 1940 the tracks were gone and all of the mines together managed to scrape out one ounce of gold.

But, it was not completely over. The Second World War was upon the nation and once more she needed that tungsten and arsenic. Mines reopened, old buildings repaired, apartments and a bowling alley were built, and the post office reinstated. However, when WWII was over, the mines stopped production and the population disappeared overnight.

Gold Hill today is probably Utah's largest, most complete ghost town. Much of the town dates from the second boom of 1917 to 1924. There are many old stores, warehouses, dwellings, mines, abandoned trucks and buses, and numerous foundations. The railroad bed is obvious, swinging from the north. Woodman's original mill foundations sit against the ridge just west of town.

